WE CLAIM:

1. A non-stoichiometric material, wherein

the domain size of the material is less than 250 nanometers,

the relative ratios of elements in the composition of the material differ by more than 1% from stoichiometric values, and

the composition of the material is substantially uniform at the lattice level.

- 2. The composition of matter of claim 1 wherein the composition of the material comprises oxygen.
- 3. The composition of matter of claim 1 wherein the composition of the material comprises nitrogen.
- 4. The composition of matter of claim 1 wherein the composition of the material comprises boron.
- 5. The composition of matter of claim 1 wherein the composition of the material comprises carbon.
- 6. The composition of matter of claim 1 wherein the composition of the material comprises chalcogenides.
- 7. The composition of matter of claim 1 wherein the composition of the material comprises halide.
- 8. The composition of matter of claim 1 wherein the composition of the material comprises two or more metals.
 - 9. A coating comprising the non-stoichiometric material of claim 1.
 - 10. A catalyst comprising the non-stoichiometric material of claim 1.
 - 11. A device comprising the non-stoichiometric material of claim 1.

- 12. A product comprising the non-stoichiometric material of claim 1.
- 13. An ink comprising the non-stoichiometric material of claim 1.
- 14. A pigment comprising the non-stoichiometric material of claim 1.
- 15. The composition of matter of claim 1 wherein the domain size of the material is less than 100 nanometers.